

APPENDIX F

CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

OBJECTIVE AND PURPOSES

The objective of the BLM cultural resource program is to manage cultural resources in a stewardship role for public benefit. The Department of the Interior has issued instructions setting forth this management structure through a use evaluation system. The purposes of the system are to analyze the scientific and sociocultural values of cultural resources to provide a basis for allocation of cultural resources, to make cultural resources an important part of the planning system, and to identify information needed when existing documentation is inadequate to support a reasonable cultural resource-based land use allocation.

EVALUATION CATEGORIES

The evaluation of cultural resources requires the consideration of actual or potential use of individual sites or properties within the following categories.

Sociocultural Use. This category refers to the use of an object (including flora and fauna), structure, or place based on a social or cultural group's perception that the item has utility in maintaining the group's heritage or existence.

Current Scientific Use. This category refers to a study or project in progress at the time of evaluation for which scientists or historians are using a cultural resource as a source of information that will contribute to the understanding of human behavior.

Management Use. This category refers to the use of a cultural resource by the BLM or other entities interested in the management of cultural resources to obtain specific information that is needed for the reasonable allocation of cultural resources or for the development of effective preservation measures.

Conservation for Future Use. This category refers to the management of cultural resources by segregating them from other forms of appropriation until specific conditions are met in the future. Such conditions may include the development of research techniques that are presently not available or the exhaustion of all other resources similar to those represented in the protected sample. The category is intended to provide long-term, onsite preservation and protection of select cultural resources.

Potential Scientific Use. This category refers to the potential use (utilizing research techniques currently available) of a cultural resource as a source of information that will contribute to the understanding of human behavior.

Discharged Use. This category refers to a cultural resource that no longer retains the integrity necessary for its management as a cultural property.

PROCEDURES

The standard form of cultural resource management practiced in the Garnet Resource Area is inventory and evaluation of cultural properties implemented in response to proposed projects that may adversely effect such properties. The procedures for such management are mandated and specified in the Antiquities Act of 1906; Executive Order 11593; the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974; the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976; the National Historic Preservation Act, amended 1980; and the Native American Religious Freedom Act of 1982. Standard operating and reporting procedures minimize the possibility of damage to significant cultural properties. The individuals and groups involved are the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), appropriate Native American officials, and the National Advisory Council for Historic Preservation, which will be involved if a site is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Upon receipt of a Request for Cultural Resources Survey Form at the Butte District Office, the project is screened by the District Archaeologist to determine if the project is exempt from a necessary cultural resources inventory through programmatic memorandum of understanding with SHPO. If exempt, no further work is done. If not exempt, a project specific Class II inventory is performed using the Butte District master file of sites and inventories maintained at that office. This file contains the results of all inventories, inventory class, and location of all cultural properties by site number. The characteristics of each property are maintained in a permanent file of cultural properties. Should the project area be previously inventoried and no significant resources recorded, no further work is necessary besides reporting to SHPO; and the project proceeds.

If the area is previously uninventoried or contains a significant property, further work is necessary. Prior to field work, historic documents are consulted and the predictive modeling system applied as a project specific inventory review to determine the presence or predictive value of classes of cultural properties. Based upon this project specific inventory review, consultation with SHPO is made to determine the inventory strategy to be employed.

The typical inventory strategy in the Garnet Resource Area is the intensive Class III survey of all impact areas. For timber compartment management plans, only proposed cutting units, landings, and access roads are inventoried to Class III levels, with Class II survey given to areas within the compartment but outside impact areas. Thus, while a timber compartment management plan inventory will lead to the recordation of properties within impact areas, such inventories will seldom if ever record all properties within a compartment.

Cultural resource properties that are encountered are recorded on a modified form 8110-2, evaluated, and assigned a use allocation. Evaluation is generally made on the general surface characteristics of the site and limited historical review in concert with procedures of the Montana State Office of the BLM. Only those properties that clearly do not meet National Register criteria are assigned the discharged use allocation, with management use assigned to moderate value properties which require further evaluation and possible reallocation of use. Sites potentially eligible for the National Register are assigned other use allocations depending on site characteristics and type.

Copies of form 8110-2 are filed at the Butte District office; the University of Montana; and, as appropriate, SHPO. Inventory reports are recorded on MSO form 8110-1 and filed with the Butte District office, the Garnet Resource Area office, and SHPO. These inventory reports summarize management recommendations and fulfill cultural resource consultation requirements. Upon receipt of MSO form 8110-1, SHPO consults and comments upon the proposed action, which usually is permitted to proceed at that point due to the standard practice of project redesign to avoid impact to significant cultural properties. Copies of the consultation and comment record with SHPO are filed with the Butte District office and at the Garnet Resource Area office and project file, as appropriate.

Should properties of potential significance under the Native American Religious Freedom Act be encountered during a cultural resources inventory, representatives of appropriate Native American groups are also notified for their consultation and comment.

Only in those cases where cultural properties eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places or the National Register of Historic Landmarks cannot be avoided by a proposed project, or when there are differences in property significance assessment or inventory standards between the BLM and SHPO is the National Advisory Council for Historic Preservation and/or the keeper of the Register consulted for comments. At this point the project may be redesigned to avoid the property, mitigated to standards designed for a no adverse effect determination in consultation with the National Advisory Council and SHPO in a memorandum of understanding, or permitted to proceed as a BLM management decision.

To provide for consideration of cultural properties not evident during inventories, a stipulation is attached to each project requiring the operator to temporarily suspend work if buried cultural materials are encountered. The District Manager or his authorized representative will then determine the action necessary for protection or salvage of the property.